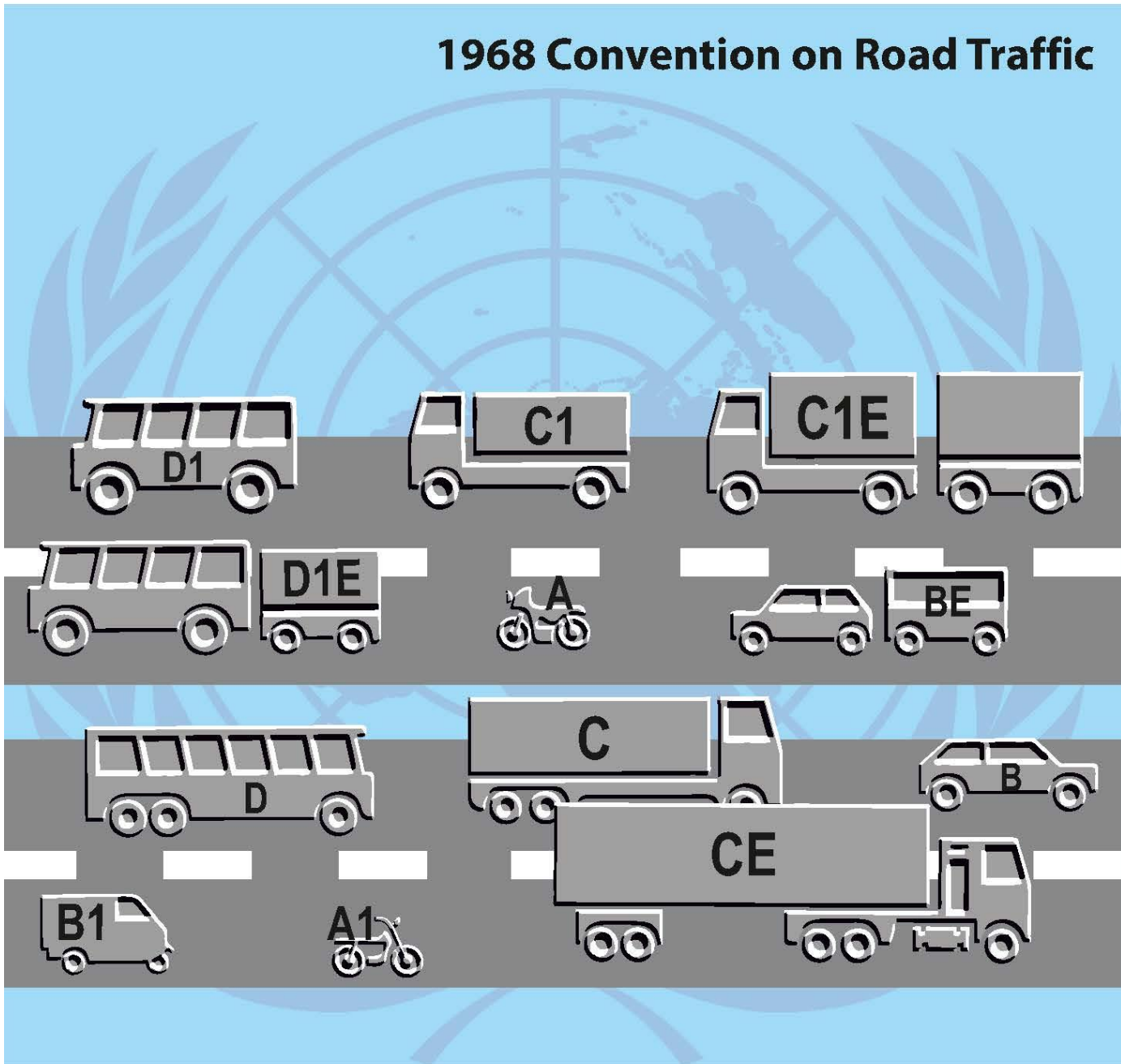


# International Driving Permit Categories

1968 Convention on Road Traffic



**This brochure, based on ECE/TRANS/WP.1/2014/8/Rev.1, recommends reconciliations of the differences between the International Driving Permit categories in the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and the corresponding definition for the same symbol in the EU Driving Licence Directive (2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)**

As a result of the discrepancies in the Driving Permit/Licence Categories between the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic (Convention) and the EU Driving Licence Directive, (2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006 (3<sup>rd</sup> Directive)), governments issuing or associations empowered to issue International Driving Permits (IDPs) have faced difficulties in the interpretation of the EU categories and the appropriate corresponding United Nations category code to be recorded in the IDP.














Whilst the discrepancies cannot be resolved in the immediate future, it is important that guidance be provided to the governments and associations issuing IDPs to the holders of EU driving licences that have been issued in accordance with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Directive.

This document will help ensure that IDPs are issued in a consistent manner by all governments and associations, and will help to avoid the inconsistencies arising from governments and associations drawing their own conclusions regarding the appropriate category code to be assigned.

This document also provides direction on how to complete the 'Restrictive Conditions of Use' designated space. In addition to the restrictions (if relevant) listed in the

Convention such as "Must wear corrective lenses", "Valid only for driving vehicle No. ...", "Vehicle must be equipped to be driven by a one-legged person" being stated, the restrictions on IDP listed on page 4 of this brochure (see last column of Table titled "Recommended reconciliations of the IDP categories in the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and the licence categories defined in EU Directive 2006/126/EC") are to be stated in the designated space.

This is because certain EU definitions of a particular licence category are more restrictive than the definition of the corresponding driving permit category in the Convention. For example, EU licence category B1 permits only quadricycles to be driven by the holder of a B1 driving licence, whilst the Convention allows tricycles and quadricycles to be driven by the holder of a B1 driving permit. Accordingly, the IDP issued to the holder of a B1 driving licence issued in the EU should state "No Tricycles" as a Restrictive Condition of Use.

PARTICULARS CONCERNING THE DRIVER			
Family name:			1
Given name, other names:			2
Place of birth: <sup>1</sup>			3
Date of birth:			4
Place of normal residence: <sup>2</sup>			5
CATEGORIES AND SUBCATEGORIES OF VEHICLES, WITH THE CORRESPONDING CODES, FOR WHICH THE PERMIT IS VALID			
Category code/Pictogram		Subcategory code/Pictogram	
A		A1	
B		B1	
C		C1	
D		D1	
BE			
CE		C1E	
DE		D1E	
RESTRICTIVE CONDITIONS OF USE <sup>3</sup>			

## Recommended reconciliations of the IDP categories in the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic and the licence categories defined in EU Directive 2006/126/EC

Category or subcategory on EU licence	Category or subcategory on IDP (1968 Convention)	Restriction(s) on IDP
AM	A1 <sup>1</sup> and B1	Design speed ≤ 45 km/h
A1	A1 <sup>8</sup> and B1	- Power/weight ≤ 0,1 kW/kg - Tricycles ≤ 15 kW - No quadricycles
A2	A	- Power ≤ 35 kW - Power/weight ≤ 0.2 kW/kg - Not derived from a vehicle of more than double its power.
A	A <sup>8</sup> and B1	No quadricycles
B1	B1	No tricycles
B	B	No tricycles
B with Code 96	BE	- Combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 4,250 kg - No tricycles
BE	BE	Maximum authorized mass of the trailer or semi-trailer ≤ 3,500 kg
C1	C1	
C1E	C1E and BE	Combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 12,000 kg
C	C	
CE	CE	
D1	D1	Length ≤ 8 m
D1E	D1E <sup>2</sup>	Drawing vehicle length ≤ 8 m
D	D	
DE	DE	

### Note:

Red colour - aspects included in the 1968 Convention that were omitted or changed in the EU 3rd Directive.

Blue colour - aspects included in the EU 3rd Directive that do not appear in or differ from the 1968 Convention.

Green colour - highlights the symbol and restrictive conditions of use in combination with the appropriate Category from the 1968 Convention to be recorded in the IDP.

Orange colour - highlights when more than one Category from the 1968 Convention is to be recorded in the IDP.

<sup>1</sup> Contracting Parties outside the European Economic Area (EEA) will restrict categories A and A1 to two-wheeled vehicles only.

<sup>2</sup> Contracting Parties outside the EU will only allow trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle and restrict this driving authorisation to a combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled up to 12,000 kg.

## Appropriate IDP category for categories of vehicles in paragraph 8 of Annex 6 of the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic

Category	1968 Convention on Road Traffic Definition (28 March 2006 amendment)	EU 3 <sup>rd</sup> Directive Definition (Directive 2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)	Appropriate Category and Restriction Recorded in IDP	Information for holders of EU driving licences issued as of 19 Jan 2013
A	Motorcycles.	Motorcycles, with or without a sidecar and motor tricycles with a maximum design speed of more than 45 km/h and power exceeding 15kW.	<b>A<sup>3</sup> and B1</b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>No Quadricycles</b>	Category A on IDP is restricted to two wheeled vehicles only.
B	Motor vehicles, other than those in category A, having a permissible maximum mass not exceeding 3,500kg and not more than eight <b>seats</b> in addition to the driver's seat; or motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg; or motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg <b>but does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle, where the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 3,500kg.</b>	Motor Vehicles with a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 3,500kg and <b>designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers</b> in addition to the driver; motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750kg. <b>Without prejudice to the provisions of type-approval rules for the vehicles concerned, motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer with a maximum authorised mass exceeding 750kg provided that the maximum authorised mass of this combination does not exceed 4,250kg. In case such a combination exceeds 3,500kg this combination shall only be driven, after training has been completed or a test of skills and behaviour has been passed by the driver.</b> <sup>4</sup>	<b>B<sup>5</sup></b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>No Tricycles</b>	Category B on IDP is restricted to motor vehicles coupled to trailers the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle and combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 3,500kg only.

See note on page 4 regarding coloured text.

<sup>3</sup> Since the European Agreement supplementing the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic makes provision for three-wheeled vehicles whose unladen mass does not exceed 400kg to be treated as motorcycles by the parties thereto, Contracting parties outside the European Economic Area (EEA) will restrict this driving authorisation to two wheeled vehicles only.

<sup>4</sup> Member States may also require both such training and the passing of a test of skills and behaviour. Member States shall indicate the entitlement to drive such a combination on the driving licence by means of the relevant Community code.

<sup>5</sup> Since the European Agreement supplementing the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic does not make provision for the definition in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Directive, Contracting Parties outside the EU will only allow trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle and restrict this driving authorisation to a combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled up to 3,500kg. Furthermore, EU driving Licences issued as of 19 January 2013 are not valid for driving tricycles.

## Appropriate IDP category for categories of vehicles in paragraph 8 of Annex 6 of the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic (continued)

Category	1968 Convention on Road Traffic Definition (28 March 2006 amendment)	EU 3 <sup>rd</sup> Directive Definition (Directive 2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)	Appropriate Category and Restriction Recorded in IDP	Information for holders of EU driving licences issued as of 19 Jan 2013
B with code 96	Motor vehicles, other than those in category A, having a permissible maximum mass not exceeding 3,500kg and not more than eight <b>seats</b> in addition to the driver's <b>seat</b> ; or motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg; or motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg <b>but does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle, where the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 3,500kg.</b>	Motor vehicles with a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 3,500kg and <b>designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers</b> in addition to the driver; motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750kg. <b>Without prejudice to the provisions of type-approval rules for the vehicles concerned, motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer with a maximum authorised mass exceeding 750kg provided that the maximum authorised mass of this combination does not exceed 4,250kg. In case such a combination exceeds 3,500kg this combination shall only be driven, after training has been completed or a test of skills and behaviour has been passed by the driver.<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>BE</b> Restrictive conditions of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>Combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 4,250 kg</b> <b>No Tricycles</b>	Category B on IDP is restricted to motor vehicles coupled to trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle and combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 3,500kg only.
C	Motor vehicles, other than those in category D, having a permissible maximum mass exceeding 3,500kg; or motor vehicles of category C coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg.	Motor vehicles other than those in categories <b>D1 or D</b> , whose maximum authorised mass is over 3,500kg <b>and which are designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers in addition to the driver;</b> motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750kg.	<b>C</b>	
D	Motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and having more than eight <b>seats</b> in addition to the driver's <b>seat</b> ; or motor vehicles of category D coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg.	Motor vehicles <b>designed and constructed</b> for the carriage of more than eight <b>passengers</b> in addition to the driver; motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750kg	<b>D</b>	

See note on page 4 regarding coloured text.

<sup>6</sup> Member States may also require both such training and the passing of a test of skills and behaviour. Member States shall indicate the entitlement to drive such a combination on the driving licence by means of the relevant Community code.

## Appropriate IDP category for categories of vehicles in paragraph 8 of Annex 6 of the 1968 Convention on Road Traffic (continued)

Category	1968 Convention on Road Traffic Definition (28 March 2006 amendment)	EU 3 <sup>rd</sup> Directive Definition (Directive 2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)	Appropriate Category and Restriction Recorded in IDP	Information for holders of EU driving licences issued as of 19 Jan 2013
BE	Motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg and exceeds the unladen mass of the motor vehicle; or motor vehicles of category B coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg, where the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled <b>exceeds</b> 3,500kg.	Without prejudice to the provisions of type approval rules for the vehicles concerned, combinations of vehicles consisting of a motor vehicle in category B and a trailer <b>or semi-trailer</b> where the maximum authorised mass of the trailer or semi-trailer <b>does not exceed</b> 3,500kg.	<b>BE</b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>Maximum authorised mass of the trailer or semi-trailer ≤ 3,500kg</b>	
CE	Motor vehicles of category C coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750kg.	Without prejudice to the provisions of type approval rules for the vehicles concerned, combinations of vehicles where the tractor vehicle in Category C above and its trailer or <b>semi-trailer</b> has a maximum authorised mass exceeding 750kg.	<b>CE</b>	
DE	Motor vehicles of category D coupled to a trailer whose permissible maximum mass exceeds 750kg.	Without prejudice to the provisions of type-approval rules for the vehicles concerned, combinations of vehicles where the tractor vehicle is in category D and its trailer has a maximum authorised mass of over 750kg.	<b>DE</b>	

See note on page 4 regarding coloured text.

## Appropriate IDP category for subcategories of vehicles in paragraph 9 of Annex 6 of the Convention (see note on page 4 regarding coloured text)

Category	1968 Convention on Road Traffic Definition (28 March 2006 amendment)	EU 3 <sup>rd</sup> Directive Definition (Directive 2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)	Appropriate Category and Restriction Recorded in IDP	Information for holders of EU driving licences issued as of 19 Jan 2013
AM		Two-wheel and three-wheel vehicles with a maximum design speed of not more than 45km/h and light quadricycles	<b>A1<sup>7</sup> and B1</b> Restrictive condition of use: <b>Design speed ≤ 45 km/h</b>	Category A1 on IDP is restricted to two wheeled vehicles only.
A1	Motorcycles with a cubic capacity not exceeding 125cm <sup>3</sup> and a power not exceeding 11kW (light motorcycles).	Motorcycles with a cylinder capacity not exceeding 125cm <sup>3</sup> , of a power not exceeding 11kW and with a power/weight ratio not exceeding 0.1kW/kg, with or without a sidecar; and motor tricycles with a power not exceeding 15kW.	<b>A1<sup>8</sup> and B1</b> Restrictive conditions of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>Power/weight ≤ 0,1 kW/kg</b> <b>Tricycles ≤ 15 kW</b> <b>No quadricycles</b>	Category A1 on IDP is restricted to two wheeled vehicles only.
A2		Motorcycles with or without a sidecar of a power not exceeding 35kW and with a power/weight ratio not exceeding 0.2kW/kg and not derived from a vehicle of more than double its power.	<b>A</b> Restrictive conditions of use: <b>Power ≤ 35 kW</b> <b>Power/weight ≤ 0,2 kW/kg</b> <b>Not derived from a vehicle of more than double its power.</b>	
B1	<b>Motor tricycles and</b> quadricycles.	Quadricycles.	<b>B1</b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>No Tricycles</b>	
C1	Motor vehicles, with the exception of those in category D, the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 3,500kg but does not exceed 7,500kg; or motor vehicles of subcategory C1 coupled to a trailer, the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg.	Motor vehicles other than those in Category D and whose maximum authorised mass is over 3,500kg but not more than 7,500kg; <b>designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than eight passengers in addition to the driver</b> ; motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass which does not exceed 750kg.	<b>C1</b>	

<sup>7</sup> Contracting Parties outside the EEA will restrict this driving authorisation to two wheeled vehicles only.

<sup>8</sup> Ibid (footnote 7).



## Appropriate IDP category for subcategories of vehicles in paragraph 9 of Annex 6 of the Convention (continued)

Category	1968 Convention on Road Traffic Definition (28 March 2006 amendment)	EU 3 <sup>rd</sup> Directive Definition (Directive 2006/126/EC of 20 December 2006)	Appropriate Category and Restriction Recorded in IDP	Information for holders of EU driving licences issued as of 19 Jan 2013
D1	Motor vehicles used for the carriage of passengers and having more than 8 seats in addition to the driver's seat but not more than 16 seats in addition to the driver's seat; or motor vehicles of subcategory D1 coupled to a trailer, the permissible maximum mass of which does not exceed 750kg.	Motor vehicles designed and constructed for the carriage of no more than 16 passengers in addition to the driver and with a maximum length not exceeding 8m; motor vehicles in this category may be combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass not exceeding 750kg.	<b>D1</b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>Length ≤ 8 m</b>	
C1E	Motor vehicles of subcategory C1 coupled to a trailer the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle, where the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 12,000kg.	Without prejudice to the provisions of type approval rules for the vehicles concerned, combinations of vehicles in category C1 above combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass exceeding 750kg provided that the maximum authorised mass of the combination does not exceed 12,000kg. Without prejudice to the provisions of type approval rules for the vehicles concerned, combinations of vehicles where the tractor vehicle is in Category B and its trailer has an authorised mass of over 3,500kg provided that the authorised mass of the combination does not exceed 12,000kg.	<b>C1E and BE</b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013 (relating to IDP category BE): <b>Combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 12,000kg</b>	Category C1E on IDP is restricted to tractor vehicles from category C1 only and trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle. Category BE on IDP allows tractor vehicles from category B, but the authorised mass of the combination has to be restricted to 12,000kg in accordance with the EU category C1E
D1E	Motor vehicles of subcategory D1 coupled to a trailer, not used for the carriage of persons, the permissible maximum mass of which exceeds 750kg but does not exceed the unladen mass of the motor vehicle, where the combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled does not exceed 12,000kg.	Without prejudice to type approval rules, motor vehicles in category D1 above combined with a trailer having a maximum authorised mass exceeding 750kg.	<b>D1E<sup>9</sup></b> Restrictive condition of use for EU driving licences issued as of 19 January 2013: <b>Drawing vehicle length ≤ 8 m</b>	Category D1E on IDP is restricted to motor vehicles coupled to trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle and combined permissible maximum mass ≤ 12,000kg.

<sup>9</sup> Contracting Parties outside the EU will only allow trailers of which the permissible maximum mass does not exceed the unladen mass of the tractor vehicle and restrict this driving authorisation to a combined permissible maximum mass of the vehicles so coupled up to 12,000 kg.

# **International Driving Permit Categories**

Information Service  
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

Palais des Nations  
CH - 1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland  
Telephone: +41(0)22 917 44 44  
Fax: +41(0)22 917 05 05  
E-mail: [info.ece@unece.org](mailto:info.ece@unece.org)  
Website: <http://www.unece.org>